RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
Expedited Procedure--Examining Group Art Unit 2174

Appln. No. 09/528,254 Amendment dated April 11, 2005 Reply to Office Action mailed February 9, 2005

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Entry of the above amendments is courteously requested in order to place all claims in this application in allowable condition and/or to place the non-allowed claims in better condition for consideration on appeal.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 9 through 11, 19, 20, 23, 24, 29, 30, 33 through 47 remain in this application. Claims 3, 5, 6, 8, 12 through 18, 21, 22, 25 through 28, 31, and 32 have been cancelled. No claims have been withdrawn or added.

Parts 1 through 3 of the Office Action

Claims 1 through 5, 7, 32, 35 and 44 through 47 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kamiya et al (6629242).

Claims 36 through 38 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamiya et al (6629242) in view of St. John (6463415).

Claims 39 through 43 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamiya et al (6629242) in view of Amir et al (6539100).

Claim 1 has been amended to include the requirements of claims 3, 5, and 6, which was indicated in the Office Action as being allowable over the prior art, and therefore claim 1, as well as claims 2, 4, 7, and 35 through 47, which depend from claim 1, are in condition for allowance.

Withdrawal of the §102(b) and §103(a) rejections of claims 1, 2, 4, 7, and 35 through 47 is therefore respectfully requested.

Page 10 of 11

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure -- Examining Group Art Unit 2174

Appln. No. 09/528,254 Amendment dated April 11, 2005 Reply to Office Action mailed February 9, 2005

Part 4 of the Office Action

Paragraph 23 of the Office Action states that claims 6 and 33-34 would be allowable if written into independent form with the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The above amendment incorporates the limitations of claim 32 into claim 33, and therefore claim 33 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Similarly, the above amendment incorporates the limitations of claim 32 into claim 34, and therefore claim 34 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Part 5 of the Office Action

Claims 9 through 20 and 29 through 30 have been allowed over the prior art of record.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, early reconsideration and allowance of this application are most courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

LEONARD & PROEHL, Prof. L.L.C.

Jeffrey A. Proehl (Reg. No. 35,987)

LEONARD & PROEHL, Prof. L.L.C.

3500 South First Avenue Circle, Suite 250

Sioux Falls, SD 57105-5807

(605)339-2028 FAX (605)336-1931

Page 11 of 11

Date: Apr. 11, 2005